

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Phillip Dan Cook; and Brett P. Monia

Confirmation No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Application No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Group Art Unit: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filing Date: **Filed Herewith**

Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**

For: **Gapped 2'-Modified Oligonucleotides**

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments, without prejudice, as indicated below:

- ☒ **Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.
- ☒ **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.
- ☐ **Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.
- ☒ **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 14 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, under the title "GAPPED 2'-MODIFIED OLIGONUCLEOTIDES", please enter the following heading and paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This patent application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/951,052, filed September 12, 2001, which is a divisional of Application Serial No. 09/453,514 filed December 1, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,326,199), which is a divisional of Application Serial No. 09/144,611 filed August 31, 1998 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,146,829), which is a divisional of Application Serial No. 08/861,306, filed on April 21, 1997 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,856,455), which is a divisional of Application Serial No. 08/244,993, filed on June 21, 1994 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,623,065), which was filed as International Patent Application PCT/US92/11339, on filed December 23, 1992. Application Serial No. 08/244,933 is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial No. 07/814,961, filed on December 24, 1991, now abandoned, and of Application Serial No. 08/007,996, filed on January 21, 1993, now abandoned. The disclosures of each of the foregoing applications is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.